ties in such a manner that domestic availability of items of mass consumption is not affected. Subject to this criteria, the targets for export of agricultural and allied commodities during 1993-94 has been fixed at US $ 225.5 million.

Regular inspection of BIS certified goods

1. V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the goods in the market certified by the Bureau of Indian Standards are regularly inspected to verify the maintenance of standard;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected in 1991-92 for not maintaining the stan dard so certified; and

(c) the number of cases in respect of which action has so far been taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) To ensure that the licensees maintain the BIS prescribed standards, the BIS has an established surveillance system the major elements of which include (i) drawal of samples from the factory for testing (ii) drawal of samples from the market for testing (iii) investigation of complaints from the consumers and (iv) feedback from the organised consumers on BIS Certified products.

During 1991-92, 61 licences were cancelled for not maintaining the Standard prescribed by BIS.

Distribution of Essential Commodities to Rajasthan and Orissa

2. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL ; Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2295 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th March, 1993 and state :

(a) what is the monthly quota fixed for Various essential commodities distributed through PDS for the States of Rajasthan and Orissa, State-wise and Commodity-wise at present;

(b) what is the actual release of quota to these State Governments, month-wise and item-wise during the last four months upto March, 1993;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a shortfall in quota for Rajasthan and Orissa particularly in Kalahandi area, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action is being taken by Government to meet the recent requirements of the State Government's of Rajasthan and Orissa particularly where people are dying due to starvation ?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS TRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COM MERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The allocation and lifting of wheat, rice, kerosene, im - ported edible oil and levy sugar to Rajas than and Orissa from November, 1992 to February, 1993 and allocation for the month of March, 1993 are given Annexures I and II. *[See* Appendix GLXVII, Annexure No. 1].

(c) and (d) Allocations of PDS items are supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the total requirements of any State or U.T. Sub-allocations within the State are decided by the State Governments. The Governmenits of Rajasthan and Orissa have been given additional allocation of foodgrain with effect from 1st June, 1992 for exclusive distribution in areas covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (iRPDS). Rajasthan is receiving 26500 tonnes of wheat and Orissa I received 13750 tonnes of rice per month

under RPDS. These allocations are meant to be over and above the normal allocations. In addition to allocations for PDS, foodgrains are also allocated to States under the Jawabar Rojgar Yojana (JRY). The State Governraeats including Orissa and Rajasthan undertake relief employment works in areas facing acute drought and scarcity conditions.

N on obtaining of B.I.S. approval by soap manufacturers

3. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN :

SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the toilet soaps are not tested by Bureau of Indian Standards; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government would make it mandatory for the manufacturers to obtain B.I.S. approval on their products including toilet soaps; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce regulations to print compositions on the covers or wrappers of the soaps to facilitate the consumers for taking up their issues of quality and quantity under Consumer Protection Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Testing of samples of toilet soaps under the BIS Certification Marks' scheme is voluntary in nature.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) The manner of labelling of cosmetic is provided for in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

Consumer cooperatives in rural and remote areas

4. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up consumer cooperatives in all rural and remote areas for fair distribution of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The operational responsibility for implementation of Public Distribution System is that of the State Governments/UT Administrations. Decisions regarding opening and allocation of fair price shops (FPSs) including preferential allotment to specific categories of persons/organisations including cooperatives are taken by the State Governments. The Central Government had earlier advised the State Governments to consider priority allotment of FPSs to the cooperatives.

5. [Transferred to 30th April' 1993]

Working of Fair Price Shops

6. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH :

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present existing Fair Price shops under PDS are working smoothly in Urban as well as in Rural areas;

! (b) if so, the number of such FPS, State-wise city-wise and rural area-wise;

(c) whether there is a scheme under Government's consideration to open more Fair Price Shops to provide items of ration, cloth and other consumable items/goods to •the consumers particularly for those residing in remote rural areas; and

(d) if so, what are the details of such scheme and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON-